



Monte Tavor Newsletter

Happy New Year!!! Welcome Back!!! We wish you all a joyous new year with new hopes and dreams for you and your loved ones.

We look forward to this year's events and learning opportunities across all ages. We hope you can join us for the many different events scheduled in our calendar. Not only as an opportunity to participate in a hands on learning experience with your older infant or older preschooler, but as a way to stay connected to your child and everyone in the Monte Tavor community.

The New Year's Tea Party Event brought many of you together for the first time as you were able to meet new faces or see families that you may not have seen since last summer. We sincerely appreciate all who participated.

Older children enjoyed many class events and celebrations that took place after the New Year. For instance, during the Martin Luther King Jr. themes, children read books and literature on equality for all; allowing children to not associate differences among peers. During Chinese New Year's reading activities mainly focused on stories on Chinese celebrations, culture, food and costumes. Celebrating friendships and demonstrating appreciation for loved ones was the Valentine's Day theme. Lastly, the feelings of new beginnings, life, and hopes and dreams that accompany spring time lead us into the celebration of spring with Easter Egg Hunts, learning about the Irish Culture for Saint Patricks Day celebrations and finally, the Animal Art Fair, which will be followed by animal themed activities in months to come.

The Teachers' training on January 9th mainly focused on activities for children based on animal themes and habitats for the different age groups. Year after year children from mobile infants to older preschoolers have taken on the journey of learning and discovering animals habitats across the globe. Teachers have been focusing on reading for the mobile infants to young toddlers about animals from the farm, forests, ponds, birds, and African Savanna. Children learn names of animals in Spanish and English.

Touch, feel, lift up and see books are read for animal sound recognition. Young children have learned about what kind of sounds certain animals make. Little ones have actually discovered that they can make up their very own animal sounds besides, roaring like a lion, barking like a seal, mooing like a cow, howling like a coyote, and trumpeting like an elephant. Animals everywhere have been the theme for January and February and it will continue into the month of April.

Toddlers and preschoolers read and learned about the different animal themes and animal habitats. They learned names of animals from the rainforest, African Savanna, Coral Reef, Arctic and Antarctic, Ocean life and more. Learning to translate their discoveries on the various animals have been a huge exposure in helping to challenge their growing minds. Toddlers and preschoolers will be working on their chosen animal and their habitat as well as creating a group mural for a chosen habitat. They will use natural ingredients and many art supplies to create their habitat. Year after year these art activities are the beginning for new inquiries about learning not only for the children, but for teachers alike.

The Oakland Zoomobile will be visiting this April 8, 2016 at 9:00 am. They will be bringing some of their animals for children to have close encounters with wild life. Wild Care was cancelled at the last minute on 2/26, but their wild animal adventure and educational classes will join us on June 10, 2016 at 9:00 am instead. Followed by the Ardenwood Farm Family Potluck and Picnic on June 18, 2016. Stay tuned for a summer/ fall visit from The Marine Mammal Academy; a date will be confirmed later.

Our hopes is to spark children's interest in nature and science with the animal encounters and themes as well as to have them have the opportunity of having a great time and enjoying the different animal activities.

Spring and Summer Dance Events for Toddlers, Preschoolers and Graduates will begin late March. Children again will be participating in a dancing extravaganza. Be ready to be there!

Thank You

Winter 2016

We would like to thank you for the successful participation with the Monte Tavor Book Fair with Barefoot Books last fall. Monte Tavor was able to get 20% of all proceeds to purchase more books, supplies, CDs, and games. Thank you for your participation. Barefoot Books is an excellent source for the continued support of the Spanish language at home. There is a great selection of books and CDs that have been proven to be fun and entertaining for children and their families. We hope that next fall you join us and continue to support our Monte Tavor library, while you simultaneously find books that will support your child's learning at home.

Thank you for the holiday gifts that all teachers and providers were showered with during the winter holidays. Your holiday spirits and genuine thoughts were certainly very much appreciated. The holidays brought a lot of excitement among the children and teachers.

We would like to welcome the following new children and their families who joined us late fall to late winter: Elizabeth and her parents Anna and Reed; Owen and his parents Rachel and Scott; Rowan and his parents Liz and Jeff; Mabel and her parents David and Laura; Brooks and his parents Michael and Jennifer; Aaron and his parents Jennifer and Meredith; Juliette and her parents Alexandra and Jennifer; Miles and his parents Lyn and Marc; Maxwell and his parents Alexander and Caitlin; Miles Dao and his parents Preety and Vu; Penelope and her parents Lisa and Dave; Kamilo and his parents Kristen and Jan-Nero, Luciano and his parents Marivel and Gabriel.

Monte Tavor 2015 Best Business Award Winner

Best Businesses of Oakland Award WINNER under Preschools Category

We would like to thank all individuals and organizations who nominated Monte Tavor Preschools Programs for winning the 2015 Best Businesses of Oakland Award in the Preschools Category. Monte Tavor feels very proud of such merit to be granted. It really took us by surprise to read the below press release. Thank you!!! To all of you who made this possible.

<http://www.bestbusinesses.biz/press-release/>

DAYS CLOSED and Events

- **WELCOME BACK NEW YEAR'S TEA PARTY JANUARY 8, 2016 AT 4:30 PM**
- **JANUARY 9 Teachers Training**
- **JANUARY 13 Children's Celebration of Equality for all**
- **JANUARY 18, CLOSED HOLIDAY Martin Luther King Jr.**
- **FEBRUARY 6, Open House Event (New Families Enrolling)**
- **FEBRUARY 8, Chinese New Year Celebration**
- **FEBRUARY 9-11 Valentine's Celebration**
- **FEBRUARY 15, CLOSED HOLIDAY PRESIDENTS' DAY**
- **FEBRUARY 26 WILD CARE VISIT CANCELED**
- **MARCH 5, Open House Event (New Families Enrolling)**
- **MARCH 15-16 CRAFTS AND EASTER EGG HUNT**
- **MARCH 17 SAINT PATRICK'S CELEBRATION**
- **MARCH 18 ANIMAL HABITAT ART EXPO /POT LUCK 4:30- 5:30 PM**
- **MARCH 19 Teachers' Training**

Monte Tavor's Contact information

You can always reach us 24 / 7 days a week at

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During business hours 7:00-6:00 pm
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During non-business hours or leave messages
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Website www.montetavor.com

Thank You Families!

Thank You for allowing us to be part of your child's life and discovery years and we thank you for the continued support of our programs.